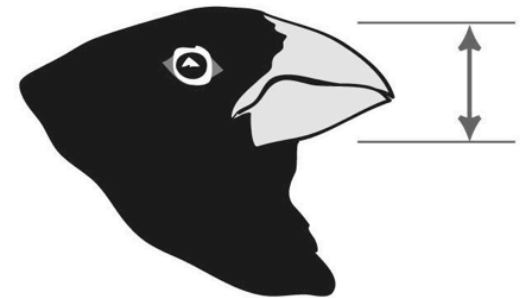
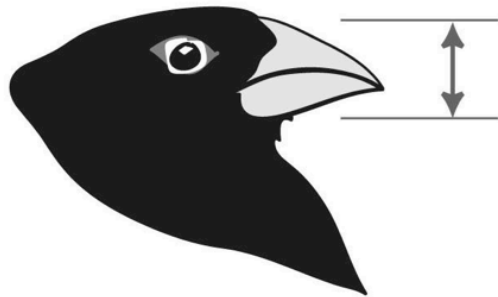
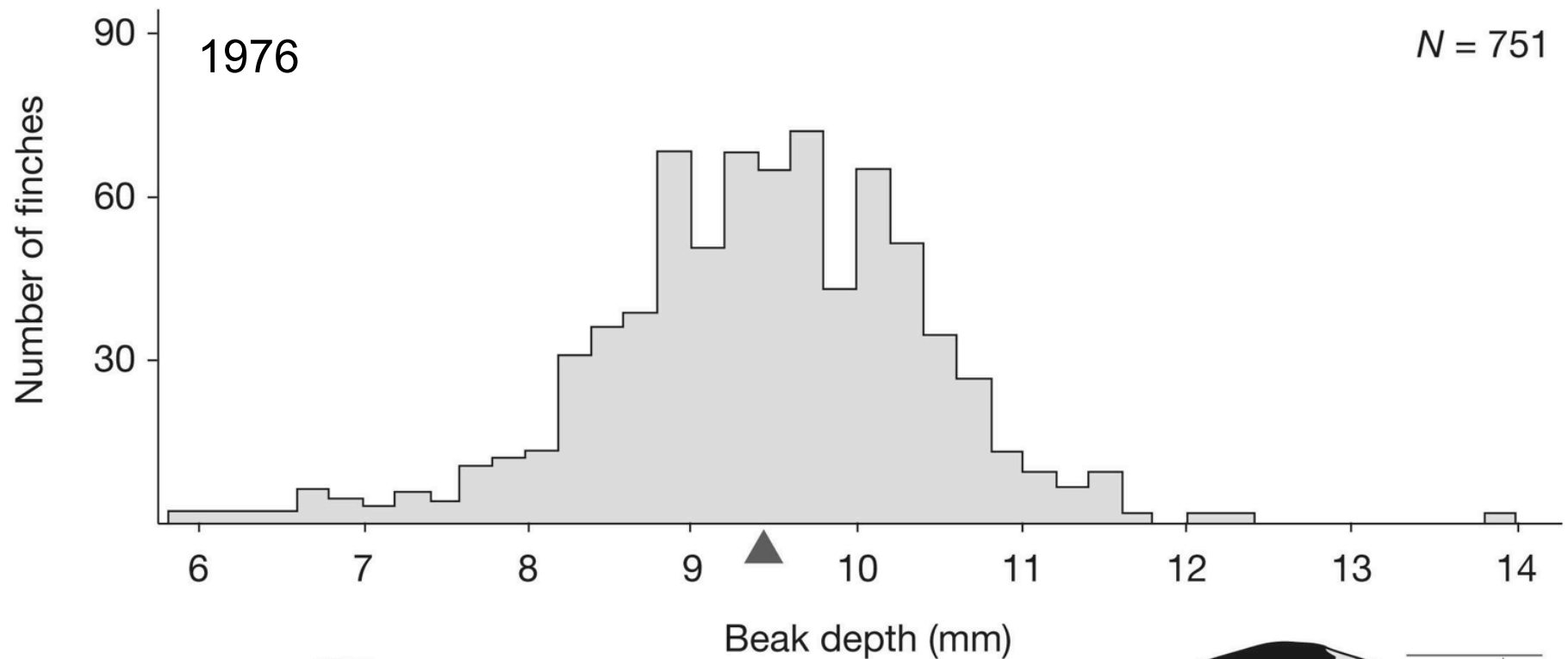


Variation in beak depth in *Geospiza fortis*



Information of Interest

- 1. Beak size corresponds with a preference for seed size.
i.e. large beak depth = large seeds, small beak = small seeds**
- 2. A major drought occurred in 1977.**
- 3. The majority of the seeds *pre-drought* = medium seeds; *post-drought* = large seeds**

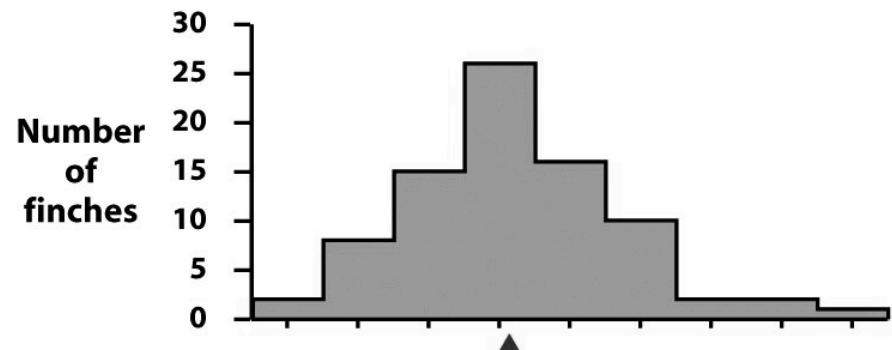
Geospiza fortis: Offspring

Given, genetic traits (e.g., in this case - beak depth) are *heritable*

(i.e. can be passed from generation to generation):

- (1) describe any observed difference(s) in beak size of chicks born in 1976 versus 1978, and
- (2) formulate a hypothesis to explain this difference.

Finches hatched in 1976, the year before the drought



Finches hatched in 1978, the year after the drought

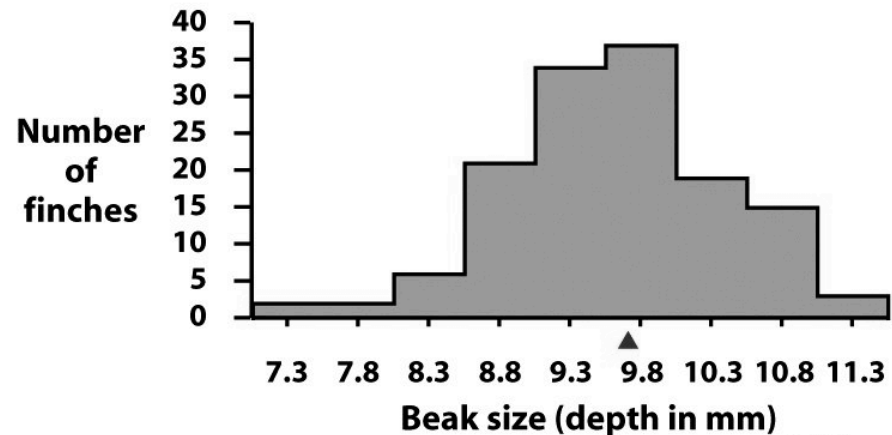


Figure 3-14 Evolutionary Analysis, 4/e
© 2007 Pearson Prentice Hall, Inc.